

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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January 29, 2009

To:

Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman

Supervisor Gloria Molina

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

## PROGRESS REPORT - TRANSFER OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

On October 7, 2008, your Board approved a motion by Supervisor Antonovich instructing the Chief Executive Office to develop recommendations to the Board within 30 days regarding the transfer of Alcohol and Drug Program Administration from the Department of Public Health to the Department of Mental Health. On October 24, 2008, we advised your Board that given the significance of the matter, additional time would be required to conduct a meaningful analysis and we anticipated providing a written progress report and a final report by March 2009. This memo represents our progress report.

This office has convened a working group of key departmental staff to coordinate the various elements of our review. We have compiled and are assessing background material applicable to this study, including a previous Grand Jury recommendation on this matter. We are also examining programs currently integrated within the two departments. In addition, we have sought and are evaluating opinions about potential issues, the pros and cons of such a transfer, and have identified additional steps necessary to proceed with and conclude the assessment.

We are also soliciting input from the various stakeholders who partner with the impacted departments. The resulting information will be utilized to finalize the assessment and formulate our final report and recommendations concerning this issue, which is still targeted for March 2009.

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If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me, or your staff may contact Richard Martinez at (213) 974-1758 or <a href="mailto:rmartinez@ceo.lacounty.gov">rmartinez@ceo.lacounty.gov</a> or David Seidenfeld at (213) 974-1457 or <a href="mailto:dseidenfeld@ceo.lacounty.gov">dseidenfeld@ceo.lacounty.gov</a>.

WTF:SRH:SAS MLM:JS:yb

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Director, Department of Mental Health
Director and Health Officer, Department of Public Health
Mental Health Commission
Public Health Commission
Commission on Alcoholism
Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Commission

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